

A. STATE OF CALIFORNIA TRAVEL EXPENSE GUIDELINES

Travel Program Effective January 31, 2002

The travel reimbursement program continues to be subject to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requirements for an accountable plan. There are no flat rate reimbursements. All items are to be claimed for the actual amount of expense, up to the maximum allowed. If the provisions below do not require submission of a receipt for a given item of expense, it is the employee's responsibility to retain receipts and other records of the expense and have them available for audit.

Lodging and meals that are provided by the State, including hotel expenses, conference fees, or transportation costs such as airline tickets; or otherwise provided shall not be claimed for reimbursement.

Employees may be reimbursed for actual expenses for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and incidentals for each 24 hours of travel, as follows:

Breakfast	up to	\$6.00
Lunch	up to	10.00
Dinner	up to	18.00
Incidentals	up to	6.00

Incidental expenses include, but are not limited to, expenses for laundering and pressing of clothing and tips for services such as porters and baggage handlers. Incidentals do not include taxicab fares, lodging taxes, or the cost of telegrams or telephone calls.

Lodging

All lodging reimbursements require a receipt from a commercial lodging establishment such as a hotel, motel, bed and breakfast inn, or campground that caters to the general public. No lodging will be reimbursed without a valid receipt. Employees who stay with friends or relatives are not eligible for lodging reimbursement, but may claim their actual expenses for meals and incidentals.

Short-Term Travel

A. For continuous short-term travel of more than 24 hours but less than 31 days, the employee will be reimbursed for actual costs up to the maximum for each meal, incidental, and lodging expense for each completed 24 hours of travel, beginning with the traveler's time of departure and return as follows:

1. On the first day of travel at the beginning of a trip of more than 24 hours:

Trip begins at or before 6 a.m. - Breakfast may be claimed

Trip begins at or before 11 a.m. - Lunch may be claimed

Trip begins at or before 5 p.m. - Dinner may be claimed

2. On the fractional day of travel at the end of a trip of more than 24 hours:

Trip ends at or after 8 a.m. - Breakfast may be claimed

Trip ends at or after 2 p.m. - Lunch may be claimed

Trip ends at or after 7 p.m. - Dinner may be claimed

If the fractional day includes an overnight stay, receipted lodging may be claimed. No meal or lodging expenses may be claimed or reimbursed more than once on any given date or during any 24-hour period.

- B.** For continuous travel of less than 24 hours, the employee will be reimbursed for actual expenses, up to a maximum as follows:

Travel begins at or before 6 a.m. and ends at or after 9 a.m. - Breakfast may be claimed
Travel begins at or before 4 p.m. and ends at or after 7 p.m. - Dinner may be claimed

If the trip extends overnight, receipted lodging may be claimed. No lunch or incidentals may be claimed on a trip of less than 24 hours.

Short-Term Travel Maximum Lodging Reimbursement Rate

- A.** Statewide except as in (B) and (C) below, actual receipted lodging up to \$84 plus tax.
- B.** When required to conduct state business and obtain lodging in the counties of Los Angeles and San Diego, reimbursement will be for actual receipted lodging, to a maximum of \$110 plus tax.
- C.** When required to conduct state business and obtain lodging in the counties of Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara, reimbursement will be for actual receipted lodging, to a maximum of \$140 plus tax.

Long-Term Travel

Actual expenses for long-term meals and receipted lodging will be reimbursed when the employee incurs expenses in one location comparable to those arising from the use of establishments catering to long-term visitors.

A. Full Long-Term Travel

To qualify for full long-term travel reimbursement, the employee on a long-term field assignment must meet the following criteria:

- a) The employee continues to maintain a permanent residence at the primary headquarters, and either,
- b) The permanent residence is occupied by the employee's dependents, or
- c) The permanent residence is maintained at a net expense to the employee exceeding \$200 per month.

The employee who is living at the long-term location may claim either:

- 1. Reimbursement for actual individual expense, substantiated by receipts for lodging, water, sewer, gas, and electricity, up to a maximum of \$1,130 per calendar month while on the long-term assignment, and actual expenses up to \$10 for meals and incidentals, for each period of 12 to 24 hours and up to \$5 for actual meals and incidentals for each period of less than 12 hours at the long-term location, or
- 2. Long-term subsistence rates of \$24 for actual meals and incidentals, \$24 for receipted lodging for travel of 12 hours up to 24 hours, and either \$24 for actual meals or \$24 for receipted lodging for travel less than 12 hours when the employee incurs expenses in one location comparable to those arising from the use of establishments catering to long-term visitors.

B. Partial Long-Term Travel

An employee on long-term field assignment who does not maintain a separate residence in the headquarters area may claim long-term subsistence rates of up to \$12 for actual meals and incidentals and \$12 for receipted lodging for travel of 12 hours up to 24 hours at the long-term location, and either \$12 for actual meals or \$12 for receipted lodging for travel less than 12 hours at the long-term location.

Receipts

Receipts or vouchers shall be submitted for every item of expense of \$25 or more.

- a) Receipts are required for every item of transportation and business expense incurred as a result of conducting state business except for actual expenses as follows:
 - 1. Railroad and bus fares of less than \$25, when travel is wholly within the State of California.
 - 2. Street car, ferry fares, bridge and road tolls, local rapid transit system, taxi, shuttle, or hotel bus fares, and parking fees of \$10 or less for each continuous period of parking or each separate transportation expense noted in this item.
 - 3. Telephone, telegraph, tax, or other business charges related to state business of \$5 or less.
 - 4. In the absence of a receipt, reimbursement will be limited to the non-receipted amount above.
- b) Reimbursement will be claimed only for the actual and necessary expenses noted above. Regardless of the above exceptions, the approving officer may require additional certification and/or explanation in order to determine that an expense was actually and reasonably incurred. In the absence of a satisfactory explanation, the expense shall not be allowed.

Mileage

When an employee is authorized by his/her appointing authority or designee to operate a privately owned vehicle on state business, the employee will be allowed to claim and be reimbursed 34 cents per mile. An employee who is required to use a specialized vehicle that has been modified to accommodate disabilities may claim 37 cents per mile.